



Hi, my name is Jeff Oates. Welcome to *The View from the Forge*, a monthly podcast of news and events from Valley Forge National Historical Park.

The fall season is upon us, and there are many things to do in the park during the fall months.

Fall campfire programs will be offered again this year. Bring a blanket or lawn chair, and join at Tour Stop #2 (Muhlenberg Brigade) on Saturdays from September 20th to October 25th at dusk. Program titles vary; call 610-783-1099 for more information. The campfire programs are offered free to public and are sponsored by The Friends of Valley Forge Park.

Trolley tours will continue on weekends in September and October. Join us for a 90 minute guided tour of Valley Forge National Historical Park on The Encampment Store's open air trolley. Once Upon a Nation Storytellers bring history to life right where it all happened. The tours are offered 3 times a day on Saturday and Sundays at 11, 1 and 3. Tickets can be purchased in The Encampment Store at the Welcome Center. Call 610-783-1074 for more information or to purchase tickets.

The Valley Forge After Hours tours will continue in September and October. Travel back in time to 1778. Spend an exciting evening at the famous encampment at Valley Forge and see what nights were like for the Continental Army under the leadership of General George Washington. Start with a picnic dinner before checking in at Washington's Headquarters. Kick back with your brigade around the group campfire as they tell you their soldiers' tales. Tickets can be purchased by calling (215) 629-4026, or online at www.onceuponanation.org.

On Saturday September 20th, and Sunday September 21st Valley Forge will present a program titled *Redcoats in the Valley*. In September of 1777, before Washington's Continental Army came to Valley Forge for their famous winter encampment, British and Hessian forces under the command of General William Howe were in the area. British dragoons and light infantry raided the village, capturing supplies and burning several buildings. Several thousand Crown Forces were camped here in September, before they crossed the Schuylkill River on their way to Philadelphia.

Events for both days occur from 10-4:30, with British soldiers posted at Washington's Headquarters. Ranger talks will be offered at 1pm and 3pm. On Saturday September 20th join us at 8pm for a campfire program titled "The Battle of Paoli" at Muhlenberg's Brigade (Tour Stop #2). Bring a blanket or lawn chair. All events are free to the public.

National Public Lands Day is September 27th. National Public Lands Day began in 1994 with three federal agencies and 700 volunteers. Last year 110,000 volunteers worked in 1,300 locations and in every state. Now, 8 federal agencies and many state and local lands participate in this annual day of caring for shared lands. If you or your group would like to volunteer for a project at Valley Forge on National Public Lands Day please contact the Ernestine White, volunteer coordinator, at 610-783-1065.

Several construction projects will continue in the park this fall. Some roads and trails may be closed for visitor and worker safety. Please obey all road and trail closed signs, and remember “Area Closed” and “Road Closed” signs apply to all vehicle and pedestrian traffic, including, runners, walkers, and bicyclists.

That's all for this month's *The View from the Forge*. Join next month for news and events from Valley Forge National Historical Park, and be sure to check out our other podcasts on iTunes titles *Valley Forge: History and Culture*, *Valley Forge: Nature and Science*, and the *PECO Podcasts Through History*.